Visit of U.S. Defence Delegation

2337. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASSWAMY:
SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level US Defence delegation recently visited the country for closer Indo-US military tie ups;

(b) if so, what are the areas of military tie ups sought by the US defence delegation and what are the implications involved therein; and

(c) what is the nature of the agreement, if any, arrived at between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Some high-level US military officials have recently visited India *interalia* for furtherance of the on-going defence cooperation between the two countries. After discussion, both sides have agreed to the continuation of the bilateral defence cooperation between the two countries through exchange of visits of senior Service Officers, participation in seminars, joint meetings, training programmes etc. No agreement has been signed for any general military tie-up.

Import of Military Hardware from Erstwhile Soviet Union

2338. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
SHRI SATCHIDANANDA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a gap has been created in the purchase of arms by India following the ressation of imports of military hardware from the erstwhile Soviet Union;

(b) if so, in what manner Government proposes to fill this gap; and

(c) whether Britain has offered to supply the arms required if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) There has been no cessation of defence supplies from the erstwhile Soviet Union. Some dislocation has occured in the supply of certain articles, to resolve which Government is in touch with the concerned authorities. Government is also taking all necessary measures to ensure that our defence requirements are fully met.

(c) No Sir.

Acquisition of private Houses in Calcutta by Defence Estate Office

2339. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of terms offered to private houses-owners whose houses have been taken under acquisition for housing civilian defence staff in Calcutta by the Defence Estate Office alongwith the period of each such tenancy given to different house-owners;

(b) whether consent of the respective house-owners are sought by the defence estate office from time to time for increasing the terms of tenancy, payment rate of rents etc.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM

AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No house has been acquired by the Defence Estate Office, Calcutta, for housing civilian defence personnel. However, out of the houses taken on lease from private house owners for accommodating defence personnel, 53 houses have been allotted to civilian defence staff. These leases fall under two categories i.e. houses hired prior to March 1976 and those hired after March 1976. 34 houses were hired prior to March 1976 and 19 thereafter.

(b) and (c) Information is being obtained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sale of F-16C and D Aircraft by U.S.A.

2340. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Government have offered to sell F-16C and D aircrafts to India;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the terms and conditions for selling the aircrafts; and

(c) what is the decision, if any, taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Basic facilities for Sainik Schools

2341. SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain State Governments are not providing minimum facilities like water and shelter for the students of Sainik Schools; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to make the States provide the basic facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Minimum facilties like water and shelter for the students exist in all the Sainik Schools. However, a few Sainik Schools have reported water scarcity during drought/summer for which the State Governments make special arrangements.

Money spent on Sainik School Students

2342. SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of money spent on the diet of a student in Sanik Schools per day;

(b) when it was fixed;

(c) whether Government propose to raise it;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The diet charge for the students of sainik Schools, as fixed by the Sainik Schools Society, is currently Rs. 10 per day per student.

(b) December, 1985.

(c) to (e) With effect from the first day of the 1992-93 academic session, the diet charge has been increased to Rs. 11.25 per student per day.